



BRFSS

Diabetes

Fact Sheet

Chronic Disease Epidemiology Unit

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Recommendation: Those who have been diagnosed with diabetes need to get regular check-ups and follow the advice of their physician to help prevent complications. Individuals who haven't been diagnosed with diabetes should learn the warning signs of diabetes and be alert for the development of symptoms. Everyone should try to stay physically active and maintain a healthy diet to reduce the risk of developing adult onset diabetes.

Diabetic: a respondent who has been told by a doctor that he or she has diabetes that is not associated with pregnancy.

The prevalence of diabetes increases dramatically with advancing age, rising from 0.5% for the 18-24 year old group to 15% among those 65 and older [Fig 2].

African Americans are at greater risk for diabetes than are whites; prevalence of diabetes in 2000 was 9% for African Americans, 6% for whites, 8% for females, and 6% for males [Fig 3].

Age-adjusted death rate for 1999 in Louisiana was 42.5 per 100,000 population, compared to a nationwide rate of 25.2 deaths due to diabetes per 100,000 population.*

For whites, nationwide death rate is 22.8 per 100,000, compared to 30.7 in Louisiana; for African Americans, the rates are 50.0 and 79.1 respectively.*

For females the rates are 23.3 nationally and 42.2 per 100,000 in Louisiana; for males, the respective rates are 27.7 and 42.3 per 100,000.*

Data from the Louisiana Behavioral Factor Surveillance System: 1991-2000 Chronic Disease Report:
[<http://oph.dhh.state.la.us/chronicdisease/behavioralrisk>]

*Data from CDC WONDER [<http://wonder.cdc.gov>]

